

WHOLE COUNTY WANTS TO SAVE WOMAN'S LIFE

People of Bergen Trying to Avoid Stain of Executing Anna Valentina.

CASE REMARKABLE ONE.

Board of Pardons, Only Hope of Murderess, Has Twice Refused to Interfere.

WOMEN WORKING HARD.

Circulating Monster Petition to Which Hundreds of Prominent Names Have Been Signed.

The people of Bergen County, N. J., are determined that the history of this county shall not be stained by the hanging of a woman. Led by the women of Hackensack, the inhabitants are preparing a monster petition to present to the State Board of Pardons, asking that the death penalty pronounced on Anna Valentina and sustained by all the courts be commuted to life imprisonment.

When the Court of Errors on Monday decided adversely the appeal of the Italian woman, who a year ago stabbed Rosa Sales, the woman who had supplanted her in the affections of her common-law husband, to death with a butcher knife, every legal resource in her behalf was exhausted, and the only means of saving her life now is through the force of public opinion. That the appeal to the Board of Pardons will be successful all Bergen County firmly believes. The fact that the Board has twice already refused to intervene in behalf of the murderess does not disturb them in the least.

A Remarkable Case.

The case of Anna Valentina is one of the most remarkable in the annals of New Jersey. Six years ago she came to this country, bearing above the average. She met Michael C. Sales, whom, it is said, she knew in her native land. They finally settled in Lodi, an Italian hamlet on the outskirts of Hackensack. Anna not only helping to pay for the property but actually living in the building of their humble home.

All went well for a time until Rosa Sales appeared on the scene. Then, Anna says, Michael's ardor began to cool. He finally drove her from the hut and a few days later Rosa was installed in her place.

When, a few days later, she passed the house and Rosa, leaning from the window, called her names, her anger burst into fury. Rushing into the place, she seized a knife which Rosa held in her hand and drove it into Rosa's breast seventeen times. Rosa, clutching her two babies in her arms, fell dead at her assailant's feet.

Justice Murphy never worked more speedily than in her case. The crime was committed on March 10. On April 13 the woman was brought to trial. It took just thirteen minutes to get a jury. Seven hours were spent in trying the case and the jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree in exactly forty-five minutes after it had gone out. Judge Pitney sentenced Anna to be hanged on May 15.

But in the meantime Anna had won a host of friends who promptly put the legal machinery of the State in motion with a view to her pardon.

On April 20 the Board of Pardons granted a sixty days' reprieve, but on June 2 it handed down a decision, refusing to commute the sentence.

Nothing daunted, Anna's lawyers appealed to Gov. Murphy, who, as he was about to leave the State, Sunday night sent her to an entertainment with her fiancée. On her return home, and while she was telling her mother of what she had seen, she suddenly threw up her hands and fell dead into the arms of her fiancée. Physicians who were called said that she had died of heart failure.

The six pallbearers were Misses Magdalena E. Dite, Bertha Zeman, Elmira Veronau, Carrie Koutnick, Barbara Bourke and Clara Veronau. They had black crepe draped over the bride-maid's dresses.

MATRON HART SENT TO JAIL FOR A YEAR.

Jersey Judge Ignored Petition of Elizabeth Residents for Woman Convicted for Baby's Death.

(Special to The Evening World.) ELIZABETH, N. J., March 8.—Mary A. Hart, matron of the Elizabeth Day Nursery, convicted of manslaughter for a fatal scalding of four-year-old child Anderson, was sentenced to one year in State Prison by Judge Vail to-day.

Her counsel, W. R. Wilson, made a strong plea for clemency and presented a petition signed by 300 citizens. The prisoner went abroad when sentence was imposed.

LEARNED DEATH BY AWARD.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 8.—A letter from a San Francisco cable car company offering to pay Mrs. Frederick Demorest \$1000 to settle all claims against it for her brother's death in an accident was received by her to-day and was the first knowledge she has of his death. He was Harry Curran, a private in the Thirtieth United States Infantry stationed at Fort Mason, Cal., and had been in the army seven years.

SAND BATHS SAVE LIVES OF FISH IN AQUARIUM.

Naturalist Spencer Invents Plan to Cure Them of Fungal Growth Developed by Croton Water—Check to Bubble Disease, Too.

Sand baths are now given fish daily at the Battery Park Aquarium. The bath is something new, the invention of L. B. Spencer, the aquarium naturalist, who expects thereby to save the lives of hundreds of fishy creatures. The fish have been attacked by fungi, which have played havoc among the sunfish, greatly increasing the rate of mortality, until something had to be done.

Clean coarse sand is placed at the bottom of the hospital tank in considerable quantities. Three or four times a day attendants stir up this sand to the extent of making the fish dive through it or attempt to burrow, and in doing this the sharp edges of each grain cut into the fungi.

By doing this every day the fish soon like it and seem to know that it is good for them, for after the third or fourth day the "bad look" begins to wear off.

Salt-Water Fish Escape.

The fungi, which are vegetable in nature, all come in the Croton water, the salt-water fish not being affected. The afflicted fish injure themselves dashing against the glass panes or rocks inside the tanks, and where the abrasion takes place there soon appears the fungi, which rapidly spread, making the fish look as if it had been skinned. Being sick the fish naturally makes

little effort to scrape off the parasite growth, and if unchecked, spreads to its gills, finally killing it. The sand bath does for it what the fish won't do for itself—cuts the fungi off its scales.

Already Mr. Spencer has practically wiped out the "bubbedisease" so familiar to most people interested in private aquariums. After investigation he found that these tiny "air globules," which seemed to exude from all over the fish, were simply carbonic acid gas, which could be set free by a simple process of aerating the water. Settling about to do this, he had some funnel-shaped siphons made, which would shoot a thin but strong sheet of water into the tanks, disturbing the aquarium to the bottom.

Manicuring the Garfish.

With the air being shot downward and the motion given the water the carbonic acid gas soon broke away from the fish and escaped to the surface. Plants in "balanced" aquaria breathe or live on this gas together with nitrogen, but at the Battery Park Aquarium plants cannot be used, and so this other means of aerating the water is resorted to.

Mr. Spencer's most interesting work, probably, is manicuring the gar. This he has to do every now and then when a curious parasite, resembling a white mud turtle, green in color, begins to accumulate on the gar's ganoide scales. In captivity the gar has little opportunity to shake off these incumbrances, and for that reason Mr. Spencer helps him. To do this he has to catch the parasite, which is as maneuvered as would polish one's finger-nails.

Mr. McGinnis says he never saw nor heard of William H. Cox and his wife, Matilda, the old and close friends for nineteen years of his wife, until he and his friends, breaking into her flat at No. 120 West Ninetieth street between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning of Nov. 23 last, discovered Mrs. McGinnis there with Cox.

Mr. McGinnis says that Mrs. McGinnis had been addicted to liquor for two or three years, and he presents an affidavit by William S. Collins, of No. 200 Seventh avenue, one of the raiding party, who says that they found Mrs. McGinnis and the man in a room. When Mrs. McGinnis was awakened, Collins says, she called McGinnis "her boy Dan."

Dr. E. H. M. Sell, of No. 137 West Ninety-fourth street, made affidavit that he had treated Mrs. McGinnis for alcoholism, and extracts from two letters from her in 1901 to her husband, after their separation, were read. One said:

"It's six weeks to-day, dearest, since I have touched a drop of liquor, and how much better I feel! Oh, my, when I think! Oh, I must not!"

Then Mrs. Mary F. Groop, of No. 101 Cippon place says in an affidavit that Mrs. Matilda Cox had made a clear breast of it, saying that Mr. McGinnis had ruined her home and happiness; that Cox had done nothing for five years, and she and his mother had had to support him.

Another attempt was made to wreck a Coney Island train on the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Road last night. The motor car left the track and in the fog a trolley car following crashed into the rear of the train. No one was injured, although the passengers were badly shaken up.

The attempt was made upon the West End line, between Uimer Park and Coney Island, where heavy timbers had been placed across the track. About 10 o'clock a train bound from the Island, fairly well filled with passengers, came within a few yards of the obstruction before it was seen. Then it was noticed because the motor-man, George Peterson, saw a man run from the track.

As soon as officials of the B. R. T. had made an investigation of the attempt to wreck the train they detailed a score of detectives to search for the wreckers. In a statement given out to-day the company said that boys were suspected of having placed the obstruction on the track.

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SHERIFF AFTER TWO TERRORISTS

Long Islanders, in Alarm Over Hold-Ups, Join in Hunt and Beat the Woods at Eastport for Thugs.

(Special to The Evening World.)

EASTPORT, L. I., March 8.—Deputy Sheriff Welch, of Moriches, to-day continued his search in the woods near this place for two men who have been holding up citizens on the highways and terrorizing women by demanding money from them at their homes. With the Deputy Sheriff are several citizens of this section of the county, who will aid him in his search.

For some time the two men have terrorized the people in this section and women have been afraid to venture out at night. On Sunday night the two men held up and robbed George Williams on the highway near here, and last night they stopped Ellsworth Raynor and compelled him to hand over his money.

It is believed the fellows are camped somewhere in the woods near here, and it is expected that the Deputy Sheriff and his party will soon hunt them down.

READY FOR BLACK HAND.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., March 8.—Three Black Hand letters received in the last week by Pasquale Nardone, a prominent Italian merchant of this city, threatened him with death unless he paid a ransom of \$10,000. The writer, Nardone has armed himself and says he will shoot down any one who attempts to assault him, but he will not inform the police, as he thinks he is able to defend himself.

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TRIED TO WRECK TRAIN ON B. R. T.

Heavy Timbers Placed Across Coney Island Tracks Derail Motor—Passengers Shaken Up, but No One Hurt.

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'GRANDMA' GETS \$20 ALIMONY

Mrs. McGinnis Asked for \$75 Weekly in Divorce Suit—Doctor Says He Had Treated Her for Alcoholism.

The McGinnis sensational divorce case was marked ready for trial in Justice Clark's court to-day, and will follow two minor cases, probably to-morrow.

In the mean time, in suits of the affidavits of Mrs. Florence C. McGinnis in asking for \$75 weekly alimony and \$1,000 counsel fee from her \$12,000-a-year young husband, Justice McCall to-day allowed her only \$20 weekly and \$200 counsel fee, and his decision was probably influenced by the reading of the other side's affidavits.

Daniel J. McGinnis' side of the story presents a different view of the character of the forty-five-year-old grandmother.

Mr. McGinnis says he never saw nor heard of William H. Cox and his wife, Matilda, the old and close friends for nineteen years of his wife, until he and his friends, breaking into her flat at No. 120 West Ninetieth street between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning of Nov. 23 last, discovered Mrs. McGinnis there with Cox.

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SUICIDE TALK IN STANFORD CASE

Honolulu Authorities Trying to Find a Solution of Mystery in Death of California Woman—Chemist Found Poison.

HONOLULU, March 8.—Testimony of the chemists in the inquest on Mrs. Stanford's death practically completed the case for to-day, and to-night the witnesses will sign the transcripts of their testimony in the presence of the jury.

Assessors-General Andrews is said to have been directing his questions with the idea of bringing out the probability of the suicide of Mrs. Stanford, using as the basis of such theory the fact that Mrs. Stanford in San Francisco became acquainted with the extreme bitterness of the taste of strychnine, yet made no remark on the night of her death that she had experienced the same taste in the medicine which is said to have caused the end of her life.

A. Dunoon, Food Commissioner and Chemical Analyst to the Board of Health, was the first witness called at the Stanford inquest yesterday. He said: "I made the first analysis of the soda alone, and in ten grammes of the bicarbonate of soda I obtained seven-hundredths (.07) of a grain of strychnine. The second analysis I made in conjunction with Dr. Edmund Shroyer, a chemist of the United States Agricultural station, in ten grammes of the bicarbonate of soda we obtained thirteen-hundredths (.13) of a grain of strychnine. In the third analysis of the same amount of bicarbonate of soda we secured fourteen-hundredths (.14) of a grain of strychnine. By calculation we estimate that the bottle contained half a grain of strychnine."

"We examined the contents of the container of strychnine with a negative result for strychnine."

An examination of the organs showed only color reaction characteristic of strychnine, he said.

Dr. Edmund Shroyer corroborated the testimony of Dunoon as to the result of their analysis.

SWALLOWED LAUDANUM

THEN TOOK DEATH SLEEP.

Jerseyman Took Fatal Draught in Saloon and Went to Rear Room and Fell in a Stupor.

(Special to The Evening World.) ELIZABETH, N. J., March 8.—Morris W. Mason, of No. 91-2 Spring street, drank four ounces of laudanum in the back room of a saloon at Elizabeth avenue and Spring street, and died early to-day in the General Hospital here.

Before taking the stuff he flourished a bottle before a man in the place and said, "I'm going to make this." Then he swallowed the contents, went to rear of the saloon and went to sleep. His daughter was sent for and every effort was made to arouse him. These failing he was sent to the hospital. Mason was fifty years of age and a painter. His act is supposed to have been due to sudden impulse. He leaves a widow and several children. One son, Guy, a volunteer soldier, returned from the Philippines last October and is now employed at the Government office in Washington.

Mason had told friends that he always carried laudanum.

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